



LeConte Stewart, left, at 93 enjoys giving landscape art tips to students in favorite "classroom" — the outdoors.

‘Dean of Mormon Art’ still painting, teaching at 93

Titles such as "Master of Mormon Landscape," and "Dean of Mormon Art" have been bestowed upon LeConte Stewart, a modest painter who, at 93, wonders what all the fuss is about.

The "fuss" was the opening of the LeConte Stewart Exhibition in the Museum of Church History and Art. The exhibit, which opened Nov. 16 and will remain through mid-April 1985, features more than 225 of the artist's paintings. It is estimated Stewart has painted more than 4,000 works.

Stewart, who grew up in southern Utah with a pencil in one hand and sketch paper in the other, has been called Utah's — and Mormondom's — foremost living artist. He lives in Kaysville, Utah, and continues to paint favorite scenes in Davis, Morgan and Weber counties.

"Aside from my religion, I have found God in nature and my close communication with her," he once told the *Church News*. "With my canvas and brush, I have learned to see beauty in every leaf and tree and hill. I have learned to love and respect His marvelous creations and have tried to keep in tune with Him.

"Painting is more than expressing the appearance of things; it is expressing the spirit of things. When you know and love a tree, you can paint its spirit, the quality God gave it."

The exhibition, titled "LeConte Stewart: The Spirit of Landscape," is divided into five categories — "The Mormon Landscape," "The Urban Landscape of the Great Depression," "The Young Commercial Artist," "Temple Muralist," and "The Spirit of Landscape."

"Nature and landscape, God and religion, art and creative activity are all part of the same truth for LeConte Stewart," said curator of the exhibit, Robert Davis, of "The Spirit of Landscape."

"As an artist, he has attempted to portray both the surface appearance of things as well as the inner character of the subject. He does not mechanically copy nature as it would be seen through the lens of a camera. He simplifies and selects detail that brings out the essence of things through a kind of visual poetry," Davis said.

In Stewart's "Mormon Landscape" paintings, he depicts farms and communities in rural northern Utah founded and developed

by Mormon pioneers. He told the *Church News*, "My middle name is 'Old Barn.' I like them, and I have painted thousands of them, and I am going to keep on as long as they last, or as long as I last."

Davis said, "More than any other person, Stewart has expressed the regional character of this landscape through time. He has been called 'historian with a paintbrush.' He approaches his task, however, not as a historian but as an artist responding to the images he sees."

Stewart's "American Scene" or regionalist paintings done during the Depression era of the 1930s capture the mundane, everyday activities of Americans in towns and cities. In these "slice-of-life scenes" he depicted abandoned farm buildings and vacant houses. "He painted the main streets of Utah's towns and cities, commenting on the social conditions of the time, while also showing his gentle wit and skill at understatement and veiled meaning," said Davis.

In the categories of "Young Commercial Artist" and "Temple Muralist," Stewart did illustrations for *The Improvement Era* and other publications after having studied at the Art Students League in New York.

Continued on page 13

Y. acquires 6,200-acre Idaho ranch for research and teaching

MALTA, IDAHO

L. Sam and Aline W. Skaggs of the Skaggs retail chain have given BYU a 6,200-acre ranch north of Malta, Idaho.

The ranch will be used as a research and teaching facility in fields of animal sciences, agronomy, range science and agricultural economics, said Dr. Phil Shumway, a BYU animal sciences professor.

A number of different teaching methods will be employed on the ranch, said Dr. Shumway. Some students will reside there for a semester to learn livestock business management and crop management. Other students will visit for a day or a week at a time.

As many as 400 students per year could use the ranch, which will have a permanent staff, said Dr. Shumway.

A number of research projects on improving cropping and sheep and cattle production will also be conducted, he said.

"We have similar units in Provo, but they are very small. This ranch will operate on a scale similar to a regular full-time job.

"Students will leave BYU with improved abilities as agricultural businessmen," he said.

The ranch is located in southern Idaho south of Burley, and includes four wells for crop irrigation, as well as seven new pivot-irrigation sprinklers, each capable of watering 128 acres. Alfalfa, potatoes, sugar beets and grain have been grown either on the property or nearby, said Dr. Shumway. The ranch has no buildings and few fences.

The Skaggs, who are Utah residents, are major stockholders in the American Stores Corp., with headquarters in Salt Lake City. Skaggs' father founded the corporation that controls the Alpha Beta-Skaggs drugstore chain.

ary opportunities. And so far the opportunities have been plentiful.

Not only has Sister Wolfe exemplified the Church's teachings on women and motherhood, but also she often takes the opportunity to teach the gospel one-on-one.

Sister Wolfe, a member of the Huntington (W.V.) 1st Ward, said she is not on the road as much as Miss America Sharene Wells, but is gone about two days a week making personal appearances.

At 27, she is the youngest Mrs. America ever crowned in the national pageant. She said she has the full support of her husband, Kim, her two teenage stepsons, James and Mike, and her 2½-year-old daughter, Angela.

LaVell Edwards

25 Nov 1984

The man behind it all has

Leave it to LaVell Edwards, a former bishop, to keep his football team's No. 1 ranking in perspective.

"It's like anything else that is good that happens to you," said the father of three. "It's another experience that isn't going to be there forever."

In his 13th year as head coach, Edwards, who is well-liked by his players and fellow college coaches, has guided the BYU football team in its rise from obscurity to the top-ranked collegiate team in America.

"It's just another step in the recognition process," said Edwards, one of the country's winningest coaches with a 116-37-1 record. "The stadium expansion, bowl games and rankings all kind of lead up to this."

During Edwards' tenure, BYU built the nation's 24th largest on-campus stadium, seating 65,000 and has played in eight bowl games. Considering BYU was a consistent loser before he took over, that's a remarkable achievement.

"For years, people said we couldn't win because we're a Church school," Edwards told a writer from *Sports Illustrated*, "because of the missions, when the kids go off to teach love and compassion, because it's a restrictive environment, be-

'Will to prepare

■ BYU head football coach Lavell Edwards spoke during the priesthood session of October general conference on Oct. 6. Following are excerpts of his talk.

I would like to pose one or two points for your consideration, particularly to you young brethren.

First, will going on a full-time mission have an adverse effect on a future athletic career? When I started coaching at BYU in 1962, there was a prevailing attitude that missions and football did not mix. As a result, very few players went on missions and returned to play the game, the feeling being that a young man could not go into the mission field, preach love for two years, and return with the desire to play a physical contact sport such as football.

Many felt there would be a loss of

How did BYU achieve 100 percent returned missions?

Eight of BYU's stars: Florida Tampa Missions; Dakota Rapid City Mission; Trevor Matlock, offensive line backer, Thailand Bangkok Mission; and Wan Taichung Mission.

An additional 44 percent

well when he returns to play better.

If I could draw one conclusion, it would be that you could play well before a mission, he will definitely when he returns; and you could not play well before a mission. However, his understanding of his leadership capabilities, habits, and a better understanding of what it takes to be successful depends on the young man's commitment, work ethic, and how important it is to him to turn.

I suspect that these commitments, and goals are important in all lives.

On the second point, athletics, we tend to let athletes make time for life. It has been my experience to be a teacher over 30 years. I have

Outstanding Speeches



coordination, specific techniques, and the strength and the conditioning necessary to perform at a high level of competency required for major college athletics. This attitude prevailed until our beloved prophet, President Kimball, proclaimed that every man of missionary age should prepare himself for a mission.

As a result of this proclamation, many more of our athletes started going on missions. It has been our experience that if a young man decides to go on a mission, he cannot only play

ors'

be a member of Seventy on Oct. six years as an. He is married to son and they are two daughters.

a
to missionary opportunities

ation's reigning unique opportunity since up in the Mrs.

re the pageant with Mrs. Brazil, interest in the

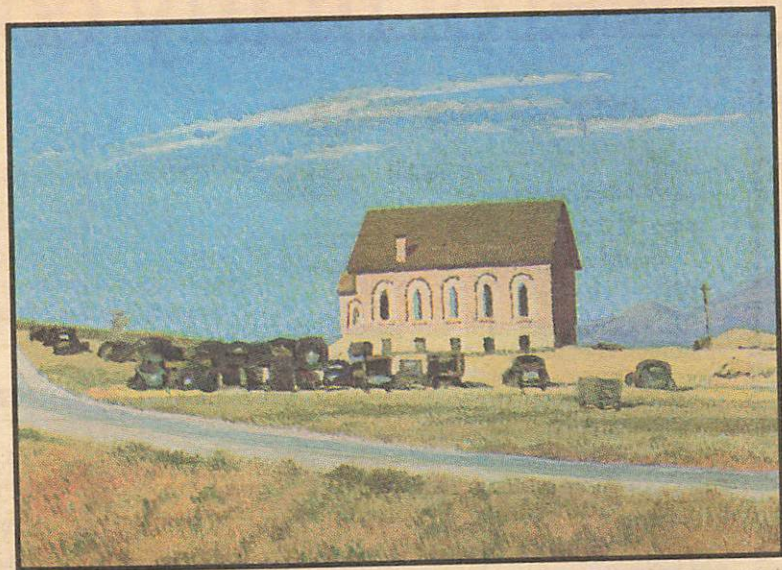
Sao Paulo and ries about Mor- "We stayed up ing about the and her husband scussions."

ntered the Mrs. d pageants be- e good mission-



Jim and Barbara Hamm Collection

"Summer in Pennsylvania" was painted when Stewart attended academy in 1949.



Alan and Kay Blood Collection

Seeing a funeral in progress in the Porterville, Utah, LDS meetinghouse in 1948, Stewart painted "Country Funeral."

PHOTOS COURTESY MUSEUM
OF CHURCH HISTORY AND ART

DESIGN / REED MCGREGOR



Elder Joseph Anderson, left, is delighted with the "towel of many colors" that Elder Marion D. Hanks presented him during his 95th birthday party.

Photo

Joseph Anderson turns 95 receives 'towel of many colors'

BY NANCY CURETON Church News staff writer

Turning 95 is simply not enough to make Elder Joseph Anderson slow down. An emeritus member of the First Quorum of the Seventy, he still enjoys his favorite pastime, swimming 20 lengths three times a week in the Deseret Gymnasium pool.

During a birthday celebration Tuesday, Nov. 20, Elder Anderson's colleagues among the General Authorities presented him with a "towel of many colors" for his amazing athletic abilities.

President Gordon B. Hinckley greeted Elder Anderson with a brotherly handshake and said, "Joseph. Ninety-five years old. Our congratulations, I think it's wonderful."

Elder Marion D. Hanks of the Presidency of the First Quorum of the Seventy presented the nonagenarian with a towel upon which was embroidered: "Joseph's multicolored technicolor beach towel."

General Authorities and family members attending the party in the Church Administration Building chuckled when Elder Hanks said Elder Anderson was being "inducted into the ancient order of porpoises and water sprouts."

Then he put his arm around Elder Anderson's shoulder and said softly, "On

your 95th birthday we honor you and give you our deep admiration and love."

Elder Anderson responded, "I appreciate this occasion more than words will permit me to say."

His voice filled with emotion, Elder Anderson recalled the 48 years he spent serving Church General Authorities before he was called as a General Authority himself. He served as secretary to the late President Heber J. Grant and as secretary to the First Presidency from 1923 to 1972.

"I've been here nearly 63 years with the brethren and could never have enjoyed life anywhere as much as with these brethren," he told the group. "I testify they're all men of God."

Holding the towel close to his chest, he said "I don't know if I'll have any more celebrations or not, but I'll take them one at a time."

Some 200 to 250 guests were expected to visit the emeritus General Authority during the day.

Elder Anderson was born in Salt Lake City on Nov. 20, 1889. He graduated from Weber Academy, now Weber State College, at age 15 and later served a mission in Switzerland and Germany from 1911 to 1914.

Elder Anderson became the First Quorum of the Seventy on Nov. 1, 1976 after serving for 12 years as Assistant to the Twelve. He is the son of the former Norma Peterson and the late Peter Peterson.

For Mrs. America

Title leads

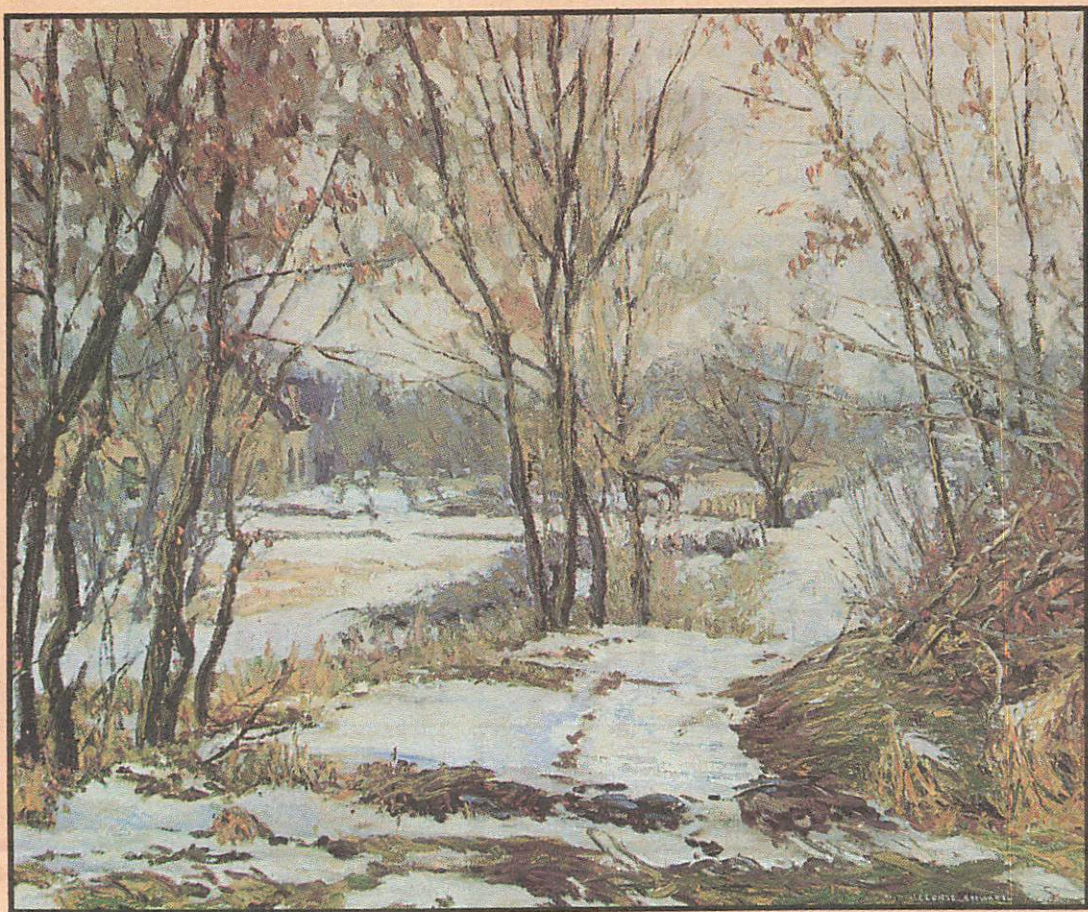
HUNTINGTON, W. V.

Deborah Wolfe, the Mrs. America, has had a duty to do some mission work and is becoming first runner-up in the World contest Nov. 2.

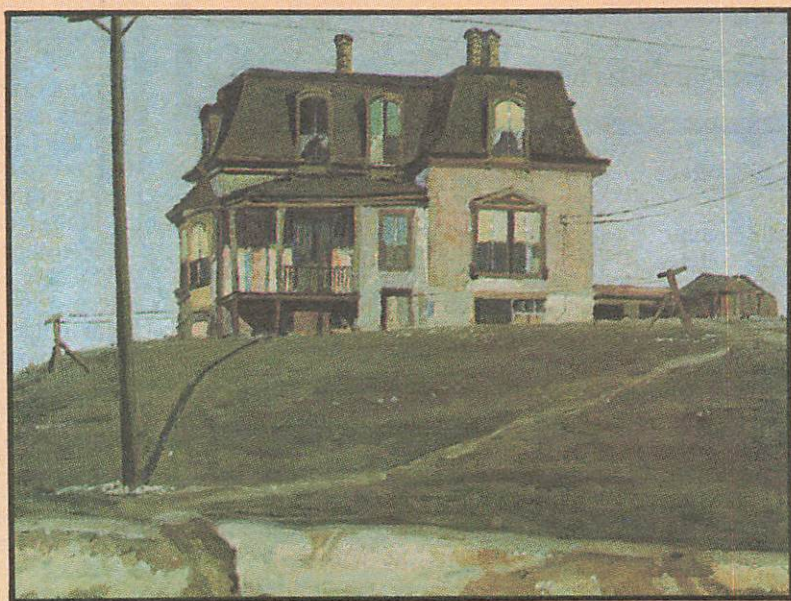
While in Hawaii, where she was held, she roomed with a woman who expressed a deep love for the Church.

"She was raised near Salt Lake and had heard a lot of wild stories," Sister Wolfe said. "She stayed many nights at the hotel where the Church and she said she was going to take the duty."

Sister Wolfe said she was Mrs. America and Mrs. World because they would provide



"First Snow," painted in 1929, is example of Stewart's brand of impressionism.



Collection of the Utah Museum of Fine Arts
 "North Salt Lake Victorian" was painted in 1934; Stewart was attracted to vacant or isolated structures.

BY GERRY AVANT
 Church News staff writer

Is

s ranking in perspective

cause of the school's location, because there aren't many good players in Utah, and four Division I schools in the state are trying to get the few there are. But you can find guys who'll accept this environment. Rather than worry about what we couldn't do, I set out to concentrate on what we could."

Lacking the power players to run over teams week after week, Edwards emphasized a passing game that is considered among the best in college and pro football. But a lot of teams pass the football well and still lose; what makes Edwards different?

"He spends a lot of time in preparation," said BYU Athletic Director Glenn Tuckett, who has known the 54-year-old coach since high school. "For Edwards, football is not an obsession."

"The biggest thing is in the way he handles adversity and how he handles acclaim — he's the same guy," Tuckett said. That calming affect spreads to the people he coaches and works with.

"His highs are not too high and his lows are not too low," Tuckett said. "He is very stable personally and professionally."

— Kevin Stoker



Photo by Tom Smart

In a typical pose, BYU coach LaVell Edwards watches recent game.

ure' is winning factor

Returned missionaries and 'Mission Impossible'

ve 'Mission Impossible?' With a football squad that is 40 missionaries.

arters are returned missionaries: Kelly Smith, tailback, ion; Vai Sikahema, kickoff and punt returner, South mission; Robert Anae, offensive lineman, Oklahoma Tulsa ich, offensive lineman, Mexico Torreon Mission; Craig neman, Florida Tallahassee Mission; Marv Allen, line- ngkok Mission; and Steve Haymond, defensive back, Tai- on.

ayers have also filled full-time missions.

s, he will often

general conclu-
t if an athlete
e he went on a
itely play well
l, if an athlete
ore his mission,
y well when he
chances of play-
better if he goes
a with a greater
mself, greater
es, better work
knowledge of
uccessful. It real-
ng man's desire,
abits, and how
m when he re-

traits — desire,
d work habits —
l facets of our

t. In the field of
ok at successful
em almost big-
een my experi-
and coach for
een many young

men who have achieved greatness. I have also seen those who have come up a little short of their potential. I don't know what the answer is, but I do know that those who succeed have been able to do two things.

One, they recognize within themselves the potential to do something well and then work hard to prepare themselves for that eventual opportunity. Others wait for the opportunity to come and then start to work, thus coming up a little short.

In athletics, we often hear the phrase, "He has the will to win." I think this is wrong. We can be in a game, taking a test, giving a talk, or whatever the experience may be. We can have the greatest will to do well. But unless we have prepared, it is of little use. Really, it should be the "will to prepare."

Two, those who have succeeded have also had the ability to overcome adversity, disappointment, and even tragedy in their lives.

Now, how do we handle adversity? Adversity is going to be with us in everything that we do, almost in every facet of our lives — in our person-

al associations, in the mission field, in our chosen professions, in our families. When we have adversity we often times tend to look around and think that we're the Lone Ranger. We tend to believe that we're the only one who has problems.

The ability we have to handle this adversity will determine the degree of success that we will have in life. To me, this is where the gospel can be the greatest of help to us. The power of the Holy Ghost is the greatest source of strength and comfort we can have in our lives.

I have made progress over the past decades as a coach. But I feel that the progress I have made as a coach, as well as a person, is a direct result of the growth that I have made through my Church callings.

I had the opportunity to serve as a bishop on a campus ward while I was still an assistant coach. When I was appointed head coach in 1972, I decided to approach my role as a coach much the same as I did as a bishop, delegating the responsibility to my assistants, putting responsibility on the players for self-improvement in all aspects of their lives, and using personal interviews with players to try to give positive reinforcement and encouragement so that they might do their very best and reach their full potential, both on and off the field.

Now in my career I have had many wonderful things happen to me, many more than I ever dreamed would ever happen. But I would like for you young brethren especially to know that all that has happened to me in my chosen profession is a mere drop in the bucket compared to the truly important things in my life. The testimony of the gospel of Jesus Christ that I have, along with my wife and my family, are my most important possessions.